

**AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings, of claims in the application:

**Listing of Claims:**

1. (***Currently amended***) An arrangement for connecting decorative ornaments, the arrangement comprising:

a first ornament having at most a first aperture and a second aperture;

a second ornament having at most a first aperture and a second aperture;

a first wire connector having a first end inserted into and bent to engage the first aperture of the first ornament and a second end inserted into and bent to engage the first aperture of the second ornament, wherein the first end and the second end of the first wire connector terminate after engagement; and

a second wire connector having a first end inserted into and bent to engage the second aperture of the first ornament and a second end inserted into and bent to engage the second aperture of the second ornament, wherein the first end and the second end of the second wire connector terminate after engagement;

whereby the second aperture of the first ornament is laterally disposed from the first aperture of the first ornament.

2. (***Cancelled***)

3. (***Previously Presented***) The arrangement as recited in claim 1, wherein the second aperture of the second ornament is laterally disposed from the first aperture of the second ornament.

4. (**Original**) The arrangement as recited in claim 1, wherein the second aperture of the first ornament is opposite the first aperture of the first ornament.

5-8. (**Cancelled**)

9. (**Original**) The arrangement as recited in claim 1, further comprising at least a third ornament having at least one aperture and at least one third connector connecting the second ornament and the third ornament.

10. (**Previously Presented**) The arrangement as recited in claim 1, wherein at least the first wire connector comprises at least one pre-formed U-shaped connector having ends adapted to be inserted into an aperture of an ornament.

11. (**Cancelled**)

12. (**Previously Presented**) The arrangement as recited in claim 1, wherein the decorative ornaments comprise one or more beads, crystals, stones, and gems.

13. (**Previously Presented**) The arrangement as recited in claim 1, wherein at least the first wire connector comprises a metallic wire having a diameter between about 0.0625 inches and about 0.125 inches.

14. (**Previously Presented**) The arrangement as recited in claim 1, wherein the first ornament and the second ornament comprise octagonal ornaments.

15-49. (**Cancelled**)

50. (**Previously Presented**) The arrangement as recited in claim 1, wherein the first ornament and the second ornament comprise two of a plurality of ornaments providing an ornament chain.

51. (**Previously Presented**) The arrangement as recited in claim 50, wherein the ornament chain is at least 5 feet in length.

52-53. (**Cancelled**)

54. (**Currently amended**) An arrangement for connecting decorative ornaments, the arrangement comprising:

a first ornament having at most a first aperture and a second aperture;

a second ornament having at least a first aperture;

at least a third ornament having at least one aperture; and

at least one continuous connector comprising loops, the loops adapted to be inserted into and bent to engage an aperture of at least the first ornament, the second ornament, and the third ornament, and

wherein the first ornament, the second ornament, and the third ornament are in spaced relationship with each other.

55. (**Cancelled**)

56. (**Previously Presented**) The arrangement as recited in claim 54, wherein the at least one continuous connector comprises at least two continuous connectors.

57. (**Cancelled**)

58. (**Previously Presented**) The arrangement as recited in claim 54, wherein the first ornament, second ornament, and third ornament comprise a plurality of ornaments providing an ornament chain.

59. (**Previously Presented**) The arrangement as recited in claim 58, wherein the ornament chain is at least 5 feet in length.

60-62. (**Cancelled**)

63. (**Previously Presented**) The arrangement as recited in claim 10, wherein the first connector and the second connector comprise at least one pre-formed U-shaped connector having ends adapted to be inserted into an aperture of an ornament.

64. (**Previously Presented**) The arrangement as recited in claim 13, wherein the first connector and the second connector comprise metallic wire having a diameter between about 0.0625 inches and about 0.125 inches.

65. (**Previously Presented**) The arrangement as recited in claim 50, wherein the ornament chain comprises a single-row chain of at least 10 ornaments.

66. (**Previously Presented**) The arrangement as recited in claim 65, wherein the first wire connector and the second wire connector are adapted to reduce aperture loading on the at least 10 ornaments compared to aperture loading on ornaments mounted with single wire connectors.

67. (**Previously Presented**) The arrangement as recited in claim 65, wherein the first wire connector and the second wire connector are adapted to minimize misalignment of the at least 10 ornaments compared to ornaments mounted with single wire connectors.

68. (**Cancelled**)

69. (**Currently amended**) The arrangement as recited in claim [68] 54, wherein the loops in the continuous connector comprise elongated loops formed in the continuous connector.

70. (**New**) The arrangement as recited in claim 1, wherein the first end and the second end of first wire connector and the first end and the second end of the second wire connector are bent at least 90 degrees.

71. (**New**) The arrangement as recited in claim 54, wherein the loops of the continuous connector are bent at least 90 degrees.

72. (**New**) An arrangement for connecting decorative ornaments, the arrangement comprising:

a first ornament having at most a first aperture and a second aperture;

a second ornament having at most a first aperture and a second aperture;

at least a third ornament having at least one aperture;

a first wire connector having a first end inserted into and bent to engage the first aperture of the first ornament and a second end inserted into and bent to engage the first aperture of the second ornament;

a second wire connector having a first end inserted into and bent to engage the second aperture of the first ornament and a second end inserted into and bent to engage the second aperture of the second ornament; and

at least one third connector connecting the second ornament and the third ornament,

whereby the second aperture of the first ornament is laterally disposed from the first aperture of the first ornament.

73. **(New)** The arrangement as recited in claim 72, wherein the first end and the second end of the first wire connector terminate after engagement and the first end and the second end of the second wire connector terminate after engagement.

74. **(New)** The arrangement as recited in claim 72, wherein the first ornament, second ornament, and third ornament comprise a plurality of ornaments providing an ornament chain.

75. **(New)** The arrangement as recited in claim 74, wherein the ornament chain is at least 5 feet in length.

76. **(New)** An arrangement for connecting decorative ornaments, the arrangement comprising:

a first ornament having a first aperture and a second aperture;

a second ornament having a first aperture and a second aperture;

a first wire connector having a first end inserted into and bent to engage the first aperture of the first ornament, and then terminated, and a second end inserted into and bent to engage the first aperture of the second ornament, and then terminated; and

a second wire connector having a first end inserted into and bent to engage the second aperture of the first ornament, and then terminated, and a second end inserted into and bent to engage the second aperture of the second ornament, and then terminated;

whereby the second aperture of the first ornament is laterally disposed from the first aperture of the first ornament.

77. **(New)** The arrangement as recited in claim 76, further comprising at least a third ornament having at least one aperture and at least one third connector connecting the second ornament and the third ornament.

78. **(New)** The arrangement as recited in claim 76, wherein the first ornament and second ornament comprise a plurality of ornaments providing an ornament chain.

79. **(New)** The arrangement as recited in claim 78, wherein the ornament chain is at least 5 feet in length.

80. **(New)** An arrangement for connecting decorative ornaments, the arrangement comprising:

a first ornament having at most a first aperture and a second aperture;

a second ornament having at least a first aperture;

at least a third ornament having at least one aperture; and

at least one continuous connector comprising loops, the loops adapted to be inserted into and bent to engage an aperture of at least the first ornament, the second ornament, and the third ornament, and

wherein the first ornament, the second ornament, and the third ornament are in spaced relationship with each other.

81. **(New)** The arrangement as recited in claim 80, wherein the loops in the continuous connector comprise elongated loops formed in the continuous connector.